

Arlington Historical Commission
Minutes for the Meeting of
Tuesday, 2 April 2019
Whittemore-Robbins House, 7:45p.m.

1. Call to Order: Commissioners Pamela Meister, Eric Stange, Dianne Schaefer, and Chair, JoAnn Robinson. Also in attendance Michael Gervais who is observing the meeting tonight.
2. Review of minutes: Reviewed minutes from March 5, 2019. Approved as amended.
3. Communications Received:
 - a. Sign off request for demolition of garage at 354 Mystic Street. This property is not on the Inventory. A sign off was sent to the Building Department.
 - b. Sign off request for 11 Melvin Road. This property is not on the Inventory. A sign off was sent to the Building Department.
 - c. Request for hearing for 44 Kensington Road. Informal hearing tonight.
 - d. Sign off request for 47 Spy Pond Lane. This property is not on the Inventory. A sign off was sent to the Building Department.
 - e. Sign off request for 5 Old Middlesex Path. This property is not on the Inventory. A sign off was sent to the Building Department.
 - f. Call from Robert McCarroll looking for historical records. Referred to the Arlington Historical Society.
4. Reports of other Town Boards and Historical Organizations:
 - a. Arlington Preservation Fund (Guthrie, Schaefer)- Nothing to report.
 - b. Arlington Historical Society (Meister)-Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at Masonic Hall at 7:30pm
Polishing a Masterpiece: Rediscovering the Winfield Robbins Memorial Garden
with Lucinda A Brockway
Co-sponsored with Friends of Robbins Town Gardens Program held at Arlington Town Hall. In 1938, the renowned Olmstead Brothers landscape architects were engaged to re-imagine R. Clipston Sturgis's 1913 formal design for the "town hall garden" and create a more naturalistic setting for the famed "Menotomy Hunter" statue. Preserving this landscape takes a special multi-focal lens that looks to the past, present and future.
 - c. Arlington Historic Districts Commission (Robinson)- Nothing to report.
 - d. Community Preservation Act Committee (Robinson)- Meeting held in February to vote on appropriation of funds. Discussion included plans to alter the approach to the uses of Spy Pond Field. This will become a community process.
 - e. Arlington Historic Resources Working Group (Schaefer, Robinson) – Meeting to be held on Thursday, March 18, 2019. Discuss what to do to continue to add to the Inventory.

Historical Commission FY 2019 Budget- Nothing to report.

5. Projects Proceeding under Hearings and Approvals:
 - a. 3-11 Lakeview Street 4/16 Schaefer/Robinson- Stop Work Order
 - b. 47 Mystic Lake Drive 9/16 Guthrie- No report.

- c. 39 Winter Street 9/17-Preferentially Preserved- 1 year-demolition delay- Contact Rick Vallarelli regarding the 1 year-demolition delay.
- d. 43 Winter Street 9/17-Preferentially Preserved- 1 year-demolition delay- Contact Rick Vallarelli regarding the 1 year-demolition delay.
- e. 12 Schouler Court 11/17 1-year demolition delay.
- f. 418 Massachusetts Avenue 11/17, 1/18- Stange- Close to finishing the project.
- g. 65 Hillside Avenue 1/18- Robinson- Not much progress.
- h. 36 Draper Avenue 4/18- Schaefer- Barn is framed. Starting to work on the back of the house.
- i. 32 Kensington Road -5/18- Guthrie- No report.
- j. 81 Hillside Avenue- 9/18-Stange- Nothing to report.
- k. 21 Teel Street-12/18- Guthrie- No report.
- l. 20 Belton Street- Stop Work decision 2/19 Stange- Five items were completed as stated in decision by Arlington Historical Commission:
 - 1. Rebuild sidelights- sidelights were narrower in original
 - 2. Muntins in windows- Muntins (grills) are on inside and outside of window and creates the look of a shadow.
 - 3. Remove aprons
 - 4. Replace eyebrows over 4 windows- copper eyebrows look good.
 - 5. Replace diamond balustrade over porch- balustrade looks better.

Discussion followed regarding shutters. A motion was made to approve modifications to 20 Belton Street and allow owner to get certificate of occupancy. All voted in favor.
- m. 17 Brantwood Road 3/19- Robinson – In National Register District

6. Continuing Projects

- a. Whittemore Robbins House (and outbuildings)- Plans for interior. Project will be presented at Town Meeting.
- b. Arlington Civic Block Garden: Robinson – Planning grand opening in the spring.
- c. Education/Outreach: Robinson – Nothing to report.
- d. Historic House Markers: Request for House marker for 15 Village Lane from Beth Kass. Commissioners to review request.
- e. Town Hall: Discussion about Front Plaza tonight.
- f. Web Site: Stange – No report.

7. Discussion and Hearings:

7:50pm- Sign Hearing- 325 Broadway
 The sign for Chase ATM on Broadway was approved.

8:00pm- Informal Hearing for 44 Kensington Road Presenters: David Whitney, architect and Ryan Levering, owner. Shared plans for window replacement and shingle work and roof work. . A formal hearing is scheduled for May 7, 2019 at 8:00pm.

8:20pm- Informal discussion with Michael Lemire for 81 Westminster. Plans to restore historical features, remove vinyl siding, add shingles and clapboards. Talked about adding an addition that is treated separately in order to accentuate the original house. Commissioners responded with suggestions to make the addition more compatible with the original. A formal hearing is planned for May 7, 2019 at 8:30pm.

8:40pm- Presentation on the preliminary plans for Town Hall plaza, steps, sidewalk apron with Jim Feeney and Cassie Bethoney, architect from Weston & Sampson. Presenters shared pictures of the existing conditions of the Arlington Town Hall Plaza. Three paving pattern designs were also shared. Plans also include existing handrail to be modified to be ADA-compliant, bike racks added, existing pavers removed and reset, relocation of historical light pole, granite pavers removed and replaced in kind, fountains repaired, and bricks replaced with concrete paving.

Final plans for the Town Hall Plaza will be reviewed by the Historical Commission.

The Arlington Historical Commission adjourned at 9:20pm.

The next Arlington Historical Commission meeting will be May 7, 2019 at 7:45pm.

For the Arlington Historical Commission, Victoria Rose, Recording Secretary.